

House Resolution 2177

By: Representatives Ralston of the 7th, Burkhalter of the 50th, Jones of the 46th, Lindsey of the 54th, May of the 111th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the Honorable Jerry Keen on the occasion of his retirement
2 from the Georgia House of Representatives; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Representative Jerry Keen has long been recognized by the citizens of this state
4 for the vital role that he has played in leadership and his deep personal commitment to the
5 welfare of the citizens of Georgia; and

6 WHEREAS, Representative Keen has diligently and conscientiously devoted his time,
7 talents, and energy for five terms to the superb and topnotch representation of the citizens of
8 District 179 in Glynn County as a member of the Georgia General Assembly; and

9 WHEREAS, he has ably led the Republican Caucus of the House as Majority Leader since
10 the 2005 legislative session; and

11 WHEREAS, Majority Leader Keen became the first Freshman Republican since
12 reconstruction to pass a constitutional amendment during his first term; and

13 WHEREAS, in 2006, Majority Leader Keen authored a bill that cracked down on sex
14 offenders by electronically monitoring sexual predators for life and established minimum
15 mandatory sentences for individuals convicted of sex crimes, which has become the standard
16 for similar legislation in other states; and

17 WHEREAS, during his tenure with the General Assembly, Majority Leader Keen has been
18 instrumental in the passage of key legislation, such as tort reform, the voter ID bill, and the
19 Women's Right to Know bill; and

20 WHEREAS, his vision and dedication have been invaluable as a member of the House
21 Committees on Rules, Appropriations, Ethics, Insurance, and Energy, Utilities, and
22 Telecommunications; and

23 WHEREAS, Majority Leader Keen has been recognized with numerous honors and
24 accolades during his prestigious political career, including being recognized as one of the 100
25 Most Influential Georgians by *Georgia Trend Magazine* on multiple occasions; and

26 WHEREAS, a Georgia native, Majority Leader Keen resides on St. Simons Island with his
27 supportive wife of 40 years, Alice, and they have been blessed with two remarkable sons and
28 six delightful grandchildren; and

29 WHEREAS, although Majority Leader Keen's presence on the House floor will be sorely
30 missed by his colleagues upon his retirement, the influence he has had upon the people of
31 Georgia will be ever present.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
33 the members of this body commend their esteemed colleague, the Honorable Jerry Keen, on
34 his selfless, efficient, and effective service to the State of Georgia and extend to him sincere
35 best wishes for a happy and healthy retirement.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
37 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Honorable Jerry Keen.